

**Highway 36 Exposure Investigation  
Public Health Assessment – Final Version  
Talking Points (DRAFT)  
August 27, 2014**

The Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division (OHA-PHD) is publishing the final version of a report that was released for public comment in May 2013. This report presents the results of baseline data that was collected by state and federal agencies as well as data collected by members of the Highway 36 community.

**Background:**

- The Highway 36 Exposure Investigation (EI) began as a response to community concerns about the health effects of aerially applied pesticides near their homes and schools, particularly from forestry applications.
- The EI team collected baseline samples of urine, drinking water, soil and homegrown and wild foods, in the fall (2011), during the time of year when pesticide use is typically at its lowest level and no reported pesticide applications were occurring.

**What's new in this report?**

- Public comments are addressed in Appendix A;
- There is a new conclusion based on additional analysis, which states: *"There are additional sources of 2,4-D and atrazine in the investigation area that are not accounted for in the pesticide application records available to the investigation team."*; and
- There is a new recommendation, that: *"State agencies collaborate on determining best practices that would protect human populations from inadvertent pesticide exposures."*

**What are the next steps with the Exposure Investigation?**

- OHA will work with state and federal partners, community members and other stakeholders to implement the recommendations in this report and continue maintaining the Highway 36 website; and
- In coordination with the Pesticide Analytical Response Center (PARC), provide updates through the Highway 36 listserv about findings from future investigation activities.